B8 Post-pandemic mental health crisis

Proposer: Joshua Farrell (Ipswich Green Party)
Agenda item: B Motions of Policy and Organisation

Summary

This motion calls for us to campaign for support to our already strained mental health services, as they try to deal with the mental health crisis that has been exacerbated by the pandemic.

Notes:

- Mental health services have seen a real-term spending cut of 2.3% since 2011/12
- At the same time as the cuts we have seen demand for mental health services rise by up to 16%
- The pandemic has caused an increasing number of people to struggle with their mental health as feelings of anxiety and loneliness have increased
- Going through a health crisis as large as a global pandemic is a traumatic event and we need to treat the mental health issues as well as the physical
- The pandemic will cause an increase in demand for mental health services
- LGBTIQA+ and POC youth are most likely the ones to be negatively affected by the pandemic as they both have worse mental health than the general population
- This will worsen the pre-existing youth mental health crisis
- The government has already pledged £500m to help

Believes:

- Throwing money at the crisis will not end it
- Mental health care should be a right not a privilege
- Specific support for LGBTIQA+ youth is needed, especially trans youth
- POC have had to deal with not only the pandemic but the trauma of police brutality which has been highlighted due to the pandemic

Resolves:

- To call for the government to take the mental health crisis seriously and not just throw money at it
- To recognise the intersections of where access to mental health may be limited and where it is needed

Supporters

Dylan Lewis-Creser (North Northamptonshire Green Party); Kirsty McMillan (Richmond Green Party); Kane Elwell (Durham Greens)